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NOVEMBER, 1941

Official Magazine
**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
TEAMSTERS - CHAUFFEURS
WAREHOUSEMEN & HELPERS
of AMERICA**



THE following telegram was sent to President Roosevelt by President Tobin a short time ago:

"Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

As one who has endeavored to be helpful to our government in its policies toward overcoming Hitler and other dictators, I find it extremely difficult to reconcile our people and the masses of the workers in general towards helping the Communist government of Russia. It is my opinion that our Secretary of State should clearly set forth to the Russian ambassador the necessity of having all Communistic activities cease within labor unions until such time as the struggle now going on in Russia has ended. Especially should representatives of the Soviet government of Russia request Communistic publications, such as *The Daily Worker*, to cease their unjustified, disrupting tactics on labor, because such procedure makes it extremely difficult to convince working men, especially Catholics, that Russia deserves either our sympathy or our assistance. Many of our people who absolutely believe in you and support you, are extremely silent when it comes to helping Russia because of the bitter, disrupting tactics of Communistic agents in our country. This matter is so serious that I repeat, you should request our Department of State to give it serious consideration.

(Signed) DANIEL J. TOBIN."

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What Can You Do Without?

In the months that lie ahead, we
are going to have to sacrifice many of
the things we have come to look upon
as essential to our comfort and well
being—make no mistake about that.
But just what will that sacrifice
mean?

The best way to determine this is
to face the facts squarely and decide
just what we want out of life. What
can we do without?

First, we want an opportunity to
work at a living wage; next, to live
decently; and third, enough leisure
to have a chance to learn and to enjoy
life.

But in order to obtain any of these
things, we must first have freedom.
Therefore, that is the one thing we
cannot do without. It is the corner-
stone on which this democracy of ours
is built and it is the living, abiding
force that keeps it going.

Check over the peace aims of Brit-
ish Labor. However they are phrased,
freedom is at the base of every one.
“No dictated peace”; “right of all na-
tions to live and develop”; “complete
abandonment of aggression”; “recog-
nition of the rights of minorities”;
“abandonment of imperialism.” They
can all be expressed in three words—
“Freedom for all.”

The same is true of the five points
laid down by the Pope—“Abolishment
of extreme inequality in wealth and
possessions”; “equal opportunities for
every child, regardless of race or
class”; “safeguarding of the family”;
“restoration of the sense of divine
vocation to a man's daily work”; “use

of the resources of the earth as God's gift to the whole human race, with due consideration for present and future generations." This means freedom for all.

Freedom is the essential element in all our wants—but to keep it we must give up certain things—and this is not an act of surrender but a voluntary cooperation with those who believe as we do for the good of all of us.

But—all we are asked to give up are material things—luxuries and non-essentials. The important things of life, companionship, contentment, faith are still ours. We will have to redistribute our time and energies, rebudget our income to take care of our share of the burden of defense—but there will be no interference with the precious basic freedoms without which we cannot endure—the right of free speech, of a free press, of free assembly and above all of freedom to worship God as our conscience dictates. As long as we have these we can do without many things—knowing that in the end we will get them back.

What do you want out of life—what can you do without?"—*Charles Stelzle, Inc.*

Lippmann Has a Spasm Over War

These columnists are strange fellows. Here is Walter Lippmann inflicting the following on his readers:

"After 20 years the American people are emerging from what is undoubtedly the most un-American period in the history of the nation. For the first time Americans have doubted themselves, have disbelieved in their own future, have felt themselves inadequate and small.

"The young men who have known America only in the years from 1920 to 1940 have seen little in public life that they admire. No wonder.

"They have seen a victorious nation shrink from the responsibility of

maintaining the peace it had helped to win. They have seen it shrink from the task of rebuilding the world."

But this is all over now, according to Lippmann. The World War has made men of us again!

That's arrant nonsense. During the last ten years millions of Americans, old and young, have had a tough time. They were the victims of a depression which they did not help create. *Every attempt to relieve them was opposed by men like Lippmann.* Apparently, he didn't give a hang what happened to hungry Americans vainly seeking jobs. He only became interested in them when the bugles began to blow.

It is worth noting, however, that during the last World War, Mr. Lippmann succeeded in restraining his martial spirit. He had various jobs, but none carried him to the front-line trenches. *He loves war, but evidently he has no desire to personally participate.*—Labor.

Labor's Policies Toward World Crisis Outlined by A. F. L. Executive Council

Seattle, Wash.—In a brief foreword to its report to the A. F. of L. Convention, the Executive Council summarized Labor's policies toward the world crisis as follows:

"The past year has brought our nation progressively closer toward total establishment on a defense footing. The Proclamation of an Unlimited National Emergency of May 27, 1941, was substituted for the Proclamation of a Limited National Emergency of September 8, 1939. The Lend-Lease Act of March 11, 1941, served to increase defense production, which will no doubt continue to increase as long as the world is involved in the present conflict. All of our problems and our lives in the immediate future will be overshadowed and dominated by the necessity of protecting our liberties and our institutions

against the world-wide menace created by the efforts of a few nations to dominate adjacent peoples.

"Serious as this situation is, the American Federation of Labor stands ready to do its part in complete confidence that the spirit of a free people can not be crushed, and that victory will bring broader and more stable world institutions assuring freedom in life and work.

"The year has also brought us greater confidence in the principles upon which the American Federation of Labor is founded. We believe that unionism is a way of life resting upon the conviction that workers have a right to a voice in the determination of the terms and conditions under which they work. From this basic right, lines of action and principles follow. These principles direct the outlook and course of living of persons who accept union membership with its rights and responsibilities. Real unionism does not come by law, by force or from expediency, but as a result of inner conviction and understanding.

"Our gains in the past year have been steady and substantial. We have made definite progress in all the organization work in which we have engaged and we have succeeded in improving the economic life of the workers of the nation. We have made definite gains in spite of many obstacles which we have encountered. For the coming year, which will present inescapable sacrifices, we urge that local central labor unions everywhere take leadership in establishing the concept and the practice that local unions must be maintained as agencies for human freedom and human welfare. Unions can not make themselves strong by disregarding the rights and interests of other groups of wage earners, nor can unions maintain strength by denying others access to the rights and agencies which they have established.

"The Western Hemisphere alone affords to wage earners unrestricted

freedom of action through voluntary union organization. Our greatest concern should be to exercise our rights so as to perpetuate them, together with the other institutions of our country."—*News Letter*.



Hitler's Idea of a "Living Wage"

To an American worker 17 cents is only a little more than he pays for a package of cigarettes, but to a German worker in the lumber industry it's all he's allowed to get for an hour's work under the new wage scales set by the Nazi "labor trustees," according to a study made by the Labor Division of the Office of Production Management. Statistisches Reichsamt, official publication of the German government, recently announced revised wage scales for various industries, including the woodworking industry. These wage levels, the lowest ever set for the lumber industry in Germany, contrast sharply with rising wages of woodworkers in the United States which reached an all-time high average of 57½ cents in June, 1941.

When Hitler came to power in 1933, the first thing he did was to abolish trade unions and collective bargaining. German labor leaders were put in concentration camps, exiled or killed. Since then wages and hours have been fixed solely by decree of Nazi party officials called "labor trustees."

German wage levels are further reduced by a Nazi tax of 13 per cent on every worker's wages. The place of the woman worker in the Nazi scheme of things is made clear by the policy limiting women's wages to 70 per cent of the wages paid men for the same work.

Only the most favored groups of native German workers are permitted even these allowances. "Non-German" workers suffer further through a heavy "social equalization fee" (socialausgleichsabgabe) which is taken out of their wages. This tax is exacted

from all workers in defeated or occupied territories, but falls heaviest on Polish, Jewish and Czech workers.

In the United States children are strictly forbidden to work in the hazardous lumber industry, but German children are not only forced to work in the lumber industry, but are paid as little as 9 cents an hour.

Notables Address A. F. L. Convention

Seattle, Wash.—During the first week of the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor a number of distinguished representatives of government and Labor addressed the delegates. Among those who spoke were:

Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.

Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia.

Governor Harold E. Stassen of Minnesota.

Commander Lynn U. Stambaugh of the American Legion.

Chairman Arthur J. Altmeyer, Social Security Board.

Assistant Secretary of Labor D. W. Tracy.

Bishop of Seattle Most Reverend Gerald Shaughnessy.

Edward J. Phelan, Acting Director I. L. O.

British Fraternal Delegates George Thomson, Edward Hough.

Walter Schevenels, Secretary, International Federation of Trade Unions.

Alaska Labor Department

A law passed by the 1941 session of the Alaska Territorial Legislature creates a department of labor with limited powers. The department is made responsible for enforcing the law providing a uniform \$18 statutory minimum-wage for women, collecting statistical information and

promoting proper standards of safety and health. Mr. Michael J. Haas of Anchorage, Alaska, has been appointed the first commissioner of labor. Mr. Haas majored in economics at the University of Southern California, with post-graduate work in social service. He has had 14 years' mining experience, three years as iron moulder, and also experience in political organization, legislative work, and trade unions.

"Closed Shop" Boomerangs

Congressman Clare E. Hoffman (Rep., Mich.) has a tough hide and it is not easy to get through it. But the job was done this week by Congressman Robert Ramspeck (Dem., Ga.) to the queen's taste and the edification of the House.

Following an almost daily practice, Hoffman had just completed an abusive speech against organized labor, in which he demanded legislation that would practically put unions out of business. His pet aversion is the "closed shop" and he contended it should be outlawed as "un-American."

It was at this point that Ramspeck reminded the House that Hoffman is a member of the Michigan Bar Association—the lawyers' union—and that it goes farther in restricting employment than any labor organization has ever thought of going.

"Before he can practice in Michigan," Ramspeck said, "a lawyer must be a member of the bar association. If the bar denies him membership he cannot practice law in that state."

"If a member does not pay his dues to the association, he is suspended and can not practice his profession."

"As a matter of right, I feel that the workers of this country, if they can get a closed shop and want it, have the right to it, just the same as the manufacturer has the right to designate a retailer in a certain locality as exclusive sales agent for his product."
—*Labor.*

Dangerous "Concentration Camp" Bill

In a few days the House of Representatives will be asked to vote on what has come to be known as the "Concentration Camp" bill, sponsored by Congressman Hobbs of Alabama.

This measure succeeded in edging through the House two years ago, but the Senate wisely pigeonholed it. It should meet the same fate this year.

It is not a defense measure. It is peacetime legislation. *Believe it or not*, it provides that men and women may be imprisoned without jury trials, by order of subordinate officials in the Department of Justice.

Of course, we are told that only aliens will be affected. Even if that were true, it would still be a bad bill. However, the language is so broad that any citizen might become a victim.

For example, several states have enacted what they call "model sabotage" bills. These measures are directed, in the main, at the legitimate activities of organized labor and their enactment was vigorously opposed by the leaders of the railroad unions and was condemned as dangerous to national and labor morale by the sixteen union presidents who are advising Sidney Hillman, labor member of the President's National Defense Commission.

Any worker who has not yet been granted his final citizenship papers might, after being convicted under one of these "sabotage" laws, and serving his sentence under the state law, be hurried off to one of Mr. Hobbs' concentration camps for an indefinite period.

Labor does not say Mr. Hobbs has anything like that in mind, but *Labor* insists there is nothing in the existing situation in this country to justify the passage of a proposal which makes that possible. *The House should reject the Hobbs bill, and if it fails to do so, the Senate should again decline to consider it.—Labor.*

It Pays to Organize

An obscure item in the daily news, announcing a raise of \$5 a week in the wages of chorus girls to \$40 a week on Broadway and \$45 on the road, calls attention to what organization will do for seemingly helpless people.

Before Actors' Equity was organized the average chorus girl got \$15 a week, if she was lucky. She paid for her stockings—a considerable item. She rehearsed weeks on end without pay. Her job might be good for a year. The show might close in a week.

When she went on the road, she had no assurance of being brought back. Gags about walking home were not exactly jokes. She was, in a word, at the mercy of shoestring producers and the common variety of crooked exploiter, blood brother of the jerry builder the building trades know too well.

How she gets a living wage now: The producer pays for all equipment. She is paid for love rehearsals. Before she goes on the road, the producer produces a bond guaranteeing her salary and her transportation home, with eats en route.

He knows that Equity will get him if he doesn't watch out.

The chorus girls were "impossible to organize" until Frank Bacon of blessed memory, Ethel Barrymore and other stars who could protect themselves, with the aid of the theatrical mechanics and musicians, blacked out Broadway until the powerful managers soon saw the bright light of unionism.

The moral: It pays to organize!—*The Brooklyn Mason and Plasterer.*



Necessity of Shorter Work Day

As early as 1851, a small pamphlet was published by William Woody & Sons in Baltimore, written by Philip C. Friese, setting forth the necessity of a shorter work day at that early date. Quoting Mr. Friese: "The con-

dition of every trade and profession shows that there is no longer work enough in any calling to employ all the persons engaged in it if each works the whole day. If some are compelled or persuaded to work all day, others get nothing to do; competition for work among working men must ensue, wages must go down, and, while some starve in idleness, others for a miserable pittance, must waste their health and strength in excessive labor to the neglect of their education and their social and public duties.

Thus it will be seen that years before the advent of any considerable organization of labor unions in Maryland and Baltimore, there was a crying demand for a shorter work day and better living conditions.

Two Minimum Wage Orders Affect 211,000 Workers

Washington, D. C.—Wage Administrator Philip B. Fleming approved the establishment of minimum wage rates of 35 cents an hour in the lumber industry and 40 cents an hour in the wood furniture industry, effective November 3, in accordance with the recommendations of industry committees following an exhaustive inquiry.

A total of 168,000 workers in the lumber industry and 43,000 in the furniture industry will benefit by the increases. Most of the 211,000 employees involved are in the South. The wage orders were issued under authority of the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act.—*News Letter*.

Whom Do I Call Educated?

Whom, then, do I call educated? First, those who control circumstances instead of being mastered by them, those who meet all occasions manfully and act in accordance with intelligent thinking, those who are honorable in all dealings, who treat good-naturedly persons and things

that are disagreeable and, furthermore, those who hold their pleasures under control and are not overcome by misfortune; finally, those who are not spoiled by success.—*Isocrates*.

Too Many Words, Professor

Two-thirds of the members of the faculty of Columbia University's Teachers' Collège in New York City have been laboring for some time on what they describe as a "Creed of Democracy." When they got through they had filled a 13-page document.

Would it be unkind to suggest to these professors that they read the Declaration of Independence, drafted by Mr. Jefferson and a few other gentlemen about 164 years ago? They put a "Creed of Democracy" in a few sentences:

"All men are created equal; and endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," and "to secure these rights governments are created among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."—*Labor*.

Wool's Virginity

New wool has been known as "virgin" wool for centuries. But it may not be long now before the "virgin" will be dropped. That will probably occur when the bill for honest wool labeling gets through Congress. Manufacturers may be required to tell how much reworked wool (shoddy) has been substituted for new wool in a fabric, as is now proposed in the bill. The only difference will be that the "virginity" of wool will be assumed unless otherwise stated. Most consumers do not know that the reason many "wool" clothes do not now give satisfactory service is because new wool constitutes less than half of the fiber used in wool manufacture.

A. F. L. Affiliate Chosen by Insurance Agents

Washington, D. C.—Acting on a petition filed by Industrial and Ordinary Insurance Agents Union No. 21623, A. F. L. affiliate, the National Labor Relations Board checked the membership of the union against the payroll of the Baltimore Life Insurance Company in Baltimore and thereby certified the union as the collective bargaining representative for all the debit collectors and canvassers employed in the four district offices in Baltimore.

This is the fourth district of the Baltimore Life that has requested bargaining rights through the American Federation of Labor, George L. Russ, A. F. L. organizer, announced.—*News Letter*.

Not the Remedy for Inflation

Inflation hangs over us like a specter. No group appreciates the danger more than wage-earners. But this does not mean that we favor every plan brought forth for the avowed purpose of curbing inflation.

The Federal Reserve Bank has recently formulated rules curbing buying on the installment plan. The rules, which do not apply to real estate, seem reasonable. They aim at uniformity in installment paying, fixing a minimum payment as well as the duration. The regulations may reduce some of the high-pressure salesmanship, for salesmen will be laid off. The chances are, however, that the regulations will have little effect on high prices. High prices are mainly due to scarcity. Priority orders are creating a scarcity of consumer goods, which without price control leads to inflation.

We sincerely hope that the installment-buying regulations will not be made increasingly rigorous, in another effort to curb inflation, by limiting this form of credit as prices rise. We agree, however, that this is no time to mortgage incomes heavily.

Restriction of installment buying may result in more bank credit for the higher income groups and in increasing the number of credit unions for the more farsighted of the small income groups. When emergencies come, those with small incomes can turn only to personal loan agencies or to loan sharks.

Labor expects to do its full part in saving to buy defense bonds. By this sort of saving we can do more to prevent inflation than can be done by artificial controls over our purchases. We ask for a special bond that will become convertible when emergencies befall us.—*Federationist*.

The Alternatives

The essential difference between those who believe we must destroy Fascism and those who believe we can make peace with Fascism is that the first think in terms of the future—of the world which our children will inhabit—while the others think of the present; of the present prosperity of their own businesses or undertakings; of the present enjoyment of their present privileges and pleasures; of the present security of their own hides.

It is undoubtedly true that we can avoid war—now. No one wants to avoid it—now—more than Hitler. It is true also that we can have peace—now. No one more than Hitler desires that there should be peace—now. We can have a Hitler peace just as long as Hitler pleases, as the French had a Hitler peace as long as Hitler pleased and as the British had a Hitler peace as long as Hitler pleased and as the Russians had a Hitler peace. We can have, to be precise, peace for ourselves for a little time; perhaps for long enough to save our own necks altogether.

But we can have such a peace only by the sacrifice of the future; we can have such a peace only if we are willing to risk committing those who are

younger than ourselves to one of two disasters; to a war alone against impossible odds at the Fascists' choice, or to that most shameful and terrible of all defeats—a defeat suffered and accepted without fighting. — *Archibald MacLeish.*

Soaring Prices Not Due to Wage Boosts

Wage increases are not responsible for the soaring cost of living—whatever may be said to the contrary by those who would like to have the American people forget the sins of the profiteers. Anyone who doubts the accuracy of that statement should read the testimony given by Dr. Isador Lubin last Tuesday before the House Committee on Banking and Currency. Dr. Lubin is chief of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. He is, therefore, in possession of all the pertinent facts. That's his business.

Dr. Lubin told the members of the committee that net labor costs have risen only 1.2 per cent since 1936, while raw materials have advanced 30 per cent and wholesale prices on all commodities 20 per cent.

Increase in the cost of living since August, 1939, has been sufficient to cover "very substantial wage increases in the future, as well as those already made," Dr. Lubin said.

He urged the legislators to fix prices but not to attempt to fix wages.

"Give labor a fair chance to be good," he said, "and it will not make exorbitant demands. If it knows prices can not be raised, labor will cooperate."

The consumer has not suffered because of wage increases. On that point Dr. Lubin specifically cited the wage increases in cotton manufacturing, steel, coal and automobile industries.

"In each instance it was possible to pay the initial wage advance without increasing the price of the commodity, although the wage increase may have cut profits a little," he declared.

Dr. Lubin's testimony fully supports the statement by the Research Bureau of the American Federation of Labor, which appeared in *Labor*.

When profiteers seize upon wage increases as an excuse for outrageously "ballooning" prices, and at the same time endeavor to make the worker the "goat," it is refreshing to find an impartial authority, like Dr. Lubin, placing the cold facts before those charged with the duty of drafting legislation.

Opposes Government Wage Ceilings

Washington, D. C. — Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau proposed that all corporations be allowed a return of only six per cent on their invested capital, with all profits above that amount going to the Government through 100 per cent taxation.

His proposal was made before the House Banking and Currency Committee in support of price-control legislation to curb inflation.

Secretary Morgenthau opposed wage ceilings, saying "labor is not a commodity, human beings are not property; and they should not be treated as such."

He said the price administrator should be given full authority over farm prices and favored "parity" for farmers rather than the 110 per cent of parity farm ceilings provided in the bill.

Restrictions on control of farm prices he termed "the major defect of the bill," and he said farmers would be the "worst sufferers" from inflation hastened by runaway farm prices.

"I strongly recommend that this inflexibility be removed—in the interest of the attack upon inflation, in the interest of the standard of living of our people and in the long-run interests of farmers as well."

At present corporations are allowed a return of eight per cent on invested capital up to \$5,000,000 and seven per cent on the remainder. Profits above

this return are taxed at rates ranging from 35 to 60 per cent—far from the 100 per cent confiscation proposed by Morgenthau.

He asserted that price-control is essential to prevent inflation that would be costly to individuals and to the Government alike. He also proposed other steps to counteract the inflationary trend.

"If we are to be sure of victory in the fight against inflation, we must prepare further to increase taxes," he said. "We may have to extend the general controls over bank credits."

Morgenthau said the cost of pork chops typified the inflation threat.

"The housewife knows that pork chops were 29 cents a pound in January, were 30 in February, 31 in April, 32 in May, 35 in June, 37 in July, 38 in August, and 41 at the moment—a total rise of 40 per cent in those nine months."—*News Letter*.

Success of Union Label Hailed

Seattle, Wash.—Hailing the most successful year in the history of the Union Label, the officers and delegates to the annual convention of the Union Label Trades Department are preparing to consider even more ambitious plans for the future.

Expansion of the use of radio programs, exhibits and educational films to make every purchaser in the nation union label conscious was projected for the coming year.

Governor James Raises State Employees' Wages

Governor Arthur H. James of Pennsylvania has added 16½ cents a day to the wages of 35,000 lowest paid employees of the state government. The increase boosted the pay of employees receiving \$1,020 a year to \$1,080. Hourly and per diem workers were raised three cents an hour, from 52 cents to 55 cents.

The Governor's office said that among those included in the 35,000 affected by the order are 9,000 full-time workers, mostly female stenographers and clerks, and about 10,000 per diem and hourly workers. The remaining 16,000 are employed in state institutions where maintenance is included in their salaries.

\$531,955 Back Wages Collected For Workers

One thousand four hundred and fifty-eight employers in Pennsylvania, Delaware and part of West Virginia paid \$531,955.77 during the first eight months of 1941 to 25,517 employes in back wages and overtime which the Wage and Hour Division of the U. S. Department of Labor found was due them under the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act, Frank J. G. Dorsey, regional director of the Wage and Hour Division for that area, reported. For the month of August, nearly \$100,000 was paid to 3,685 employees.

Plea Won't Go

Preparation for defense is providing fat profits for corporation stockholders.

Dividends declared in September, as through the preceding nine months, constituted the largest for any corresponding month since 1937, the *New York Times* reports.

In the first nine months of this year a total of \$2,854,556,560 in dividends was declared, as against \$2,618,308,352 for the corresponding period of 1940.

In the face of this showing, it will hardly do for corporation managements to oppose wage increases by pleading poverty. Their plea won't go and they had better save their breath for some more worthy purpose.—*Labor World*.



EDITORIAL



(By DANIEL J. TOBIN)

THE disrupting tactics attempted by the enemies of our government and the enemies of our International Union in Minneapolis have almost been cleaned up. The General President delegates matters of this kind to some one of his assistants. As a matter of fact, having so many situations of serious importance coming into his office, it can truthfully be said that he has no time to give consideration to conditions such as the Minneapolis situation except to hear reports on the conditions there once in a while. Having very close to 550,000 paid-up members in our organization, with the many problems confronting us before government tribunals and elsewhere, we delegate cases such as the one in Minneapolis to some one of the other officers in International Headquarters. During the last month we have been taken up with strengthening our organization in Detroit and elsewhere. Also we have had conferences with the moving picture producers of Hollywood who employ our people out there. The conferences were held in Newark, N. J. Immediately after writing this article he will be on his way to attend the meetings of the National Building Trades Department and other departments, as well as the American Federation of Labor, held in Seattle, Washington. During the time he is in the West he will deliver addresses to groups of our own people and attend meetings that have already been arranged.

Some of the ravings and mouthings of the Dunnes, written by the apostate Dobbs, the non-believer whom someone has said believes in free love inside and outside the Labor Movement, have been called to the attention of the General President. It is really laughable when one knows the true story. Of course fanatical, heedless Dobbs is only the messenger boy for what is left of the Trotsky outfit that operates from New York. One statement they make in their editorial is that Tobin is responsible for the trouble the Dunnes are in; and they go on to say that the Federal Government is paying Tobin back for election services, etc. Even though they disagree with us, I cannot understand how they can so shamefully lie about the situation. When the committee from Local 544, which included one of the Dunnes, appeared before our Executive Board in the Bowen Building, Washington, D. C., President Tobin appealed to them to save themselves from trouble. He advised them then that for months the Federal Government had been looking into their actions. Yes, long before they were summoned to Chicago to appear before Secretary-Treasurer Gillespie and his committee. He almost implored them to change their tactics in order to save themselves from trouble. When they were under investigation and being charged with misappropriation of funds a year before that, and a suit was brought against them for an accounting by five or six disgruntled members, he in no way attempted to injure them but gave them copies of all the letters in our office, which he could have refused but he believed he was justified in doing so. This proves that he did not in any way unnecessarily injure them and that he had nothing personal against them. We can say now that it is our judgment that if they had agreed to the proposition which was made by the General Executive Board at its meeting in Washington in May, they would have avoided a great deal of the unpleasant conditions that now obtain. They just simply pulled the

biggest boner of their lives by double-crossing the International Union and going over to Denny Lewis, who issued them a charter before they had yet been in any way suspended from our International Union. It is possible that when we appointed a Receiver over the affairs of the local union, that Receiver may make certain recommendations which we would have asked them to carry out, and if they refused to carry out the recommendations we would have perhaps taken further action. But it is also possible that they may have agreed to the proposition even though they had not intended to carry out their agreement, as they did before when we reinstated them and eliminated about ten thousand dollars in per capita tax which they owed the International Union, in order to give them a chance to rebuild their structure. We firmly believe now they should have been left outside the International Union unless they got rid of the faction which since then have proved to be at all times disloyal to the principles of the American Trade Union Movement. But even now, when it does them no good, they deliberately lie and lie and try to place the blame on Tobin for their own blunders and for their own willful refusal to be half decent. And even now their ravings and mouthings and lies will some day react on them, because those things cannot possibly be forgotten by those who come to lead the International Union or any part of the Labor Movement in the future.

We are told now by some of our friends who attended certain gatherings of the C. I. O. organizations, that the leaders within many of those organizations are disgusted with the actions of the officials in Washington who consented to take an outfit like this in Minneapolis, headed by the Dunnes, Dobbs, and the man who was refused citizenship in our country, Skoglund; and that the clean, decent leaders really hang their heads in shame over the admission of those people into the C. I. O., who were being asked to cease continuing and furthering an organization whose aims and objects are to seriously interfere with our form of government.

Of course the charges brought against them by the State's Prosecuting Attorney in Minnesota of embezzlement or misappropriation of thousands of dollars of the funds of Local 544 may have taken place anyway when the Receiver intended to be appointed by the General Executive Board went over the books and found those shortages or unaccounted deficits. The State's Attorney is now prosecuting the Dunnes and their associates for embezzlement and demanding an accounting of those funds which, from what we hear, will be difficult to explain. This also they brought on themselves.

JOHN L. LEWIS and Denny Lewis have a brother working for the Department of Justice. His work at the present time is in connection with the Labor Contract Division. Formerly he was employed by Miss Perkins in the Department of Labor. Information reaches the Department from Illinois and elsewhere where Agent Lewis is working relative to the actions of the A. F. of L. leaders. It is safe to assume he sends no report in that would in any way throw any suspicion on any of the C. I. O. organizations. Perhaps it would be well if Bill Green had his brother or one or two of his sons on the payroll of the Department of Justice. We might then be able to find out some of the things that are being done by the other side, or some reports might get in there once in a while that would be helpful to us. The trouble with the A. F. of L. is that they have not been awake to such situations for many years. When the going was good they were not alive

to the necessity of getting individuals in "spot" positions. Of course the Federation can get results if they go after them in the right way. Don't beg. Demand equal consideration with the C. I. O. You don't get much nowadays unless you fight for it. Election services are soon forgotten.

THE International Brotherhood of Teamsters expresses its thanks and appreciation to the members of the Auto Workers in Detroit and South Bend and other places for refusing to be bludgeoned by the C. I. O. leadership into disrupting and destroying those who were their friends when they needed friends, the membership of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. You may also write this down in your notebook: that when the time comes again for the Teamsters to be able to help the Auto Workers, legitimately and legally and as trade unionists, we shall not forget. The one or two places where the Construction Workers, Denny Lewis' C. I. O. outfit, chartered by the National C. I. O., endeavored to make a real showing was in Detroit and South Bend and in both instances we were forced to call strikes to get our agreements signed, and the agreements were immediately signed as before with our people.

THE International Brotherhood of Teamsters applied for one or two million dollars' worth of Series G Defense Bonds. Those bonds are non-transferable and non-negotiable. If you keep those bonds in your possession for twelve years they carry an interest rate of around two and one-half per cent. If you cash them in before, your interest rate is much lower. We were desirous of helping our government because we understand the bonds are not going over amongst the masses of the working people as fast as they should. We wanted to establish the confidence of our people by purchasing this large amount of bonds in the name of the International Union. We believed also, of course, that it would be a safe investment and that it would have a very fine, wholesome effect on the great masses of the working people who understand fully that the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, through its investments or deposits, has never lost one dollar in its whole history. The Treasury Department wired back and said they were unable to comply with our request, that the laws would not permit them to do so. Apparently the law governing the sale of those bonds states that no individual or corporation or other purchaser of bonds, including banks, can purchase more than fifty thousand dollars' worth of the issue. So the law prevented the Treasury Department and the government from complying with our request, all of which they agreed would have been substantially helpful. In other words, boiling the situation down, when the law was enacted it had a good, wholesome purpose behind it. The framers of the law did not want the banks and corporations to grab up all of this issue in large blocks of ten, fifteen or perhaps twenty million dollars' worth in some instances. That was their reason for inserting the fifty thousand dollar clause. Unfortunately, however, they failed to realize that there should be some slight elasticity to the law and that a labor union of 535,000 members, that is a non-profit institution, such as the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, where the members pay in a penny a day contribution for the purpose of building up a defense fund to protect them in case of a strike or lockout, and for organizing purposes—I repeat, the legislators failed to differentiate between this kind of institution and the United States Steel Corporation, the Pennsylvania

Railroad, or the Morgan Bank of New York. In many instances you wonder why we do not have much more serious blunders because of the lack of understanding on the part of men elected to office, of the real needs and conditions within our country.

THE Dunnes and Dobbs say that Tobin needs the power of the Teamsters' Union to further his political ambitions; he wants to be Secretary of Labor, or hold some other high political office. For the last time let me say to our people—Tobin wants no political job. He had a higher position than that of Secretary of Labor when he was Administrative Assistant to the President, and he resigned from that position a year ago and refused to go back to it, even when requested by many great men. He is a much bigger man now—and always has been—than any Secretary of Labor, and he has the respect and confidence of his own people, with double the salary of the Secretary of Labor, and he has the backing of over one-half million full-fledged, red-blooded Americans. His place in life and whatever honor he has achieved has been obtained through Labor, men who are flesh and blood the same as he is. His services, therefore, belong, and always will, to those men. No political honor can be greater than to have the confidence of and to serve the toilers, especially the teamsters.

LET me name you all the Secretaries of Labor who have served since the office was created by law in which campaign the writer took an aggressive part. Bill Wilson of the Mine Workers, the first secretary, appointed in 1914 by President Wilson. He died in poverty and is now almost forgotten. Next Jim Davis, now Senator from Pennsylvania. Who remembers Jim as Labor Secretary or anything he did? Next came old, simple-minded Bill Doak, appointed by Hoover. He never held an elective labor office. He was a member of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, and even Al Whitney was disappointed in him. Who remembers him now? And last Madame Perkins. Well if you think that poor woman is not paying an awful price for the job, you don't know the story. I fail to read or hear one word of praise or approval from any source on her work. On the contrary, all newspaper writers, all public gatherings condemn her. Now who is it that doubts my preceding statement that the General President of your International Union has a position and a mission much more important and much more useful than any political appointment, and he will be remembered and maybe perchance respected long after Secretaries of Labor are forgotten.

The Minnesota Labor Board Exposes Dunnes

A SIGNIFICANT and important decision was handed down on September 18 by the Conciliator, who occupies the position of the chairman of a Labor Board in the State of Minnesota, affecting the Teamster controversy. The decision is significant because all the divisions of the Teamster craft in the entire Minneapolis area have selected International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 544, as their bargaining agent, and Local 544 has been so certified.

This decision is equally noteworthy for its disclosure of the iniquitous and irresponsible activities of the Dunne brothers. The Conciliator impar-

tially conducted long, formal hearings in which he obtained a record containing all of the relevant facts. The findings and conclusions are those of an important judicial government tribunal, and they prove once again that the path of those union officials who would subvert the welfare of their membership to their own personal, selfish interests and political theories and ambitions leads but to disgrace and defeat.

The Conciliator accurately found that the dispute was "*between the A. F. of L. union of long standing and a comparatively small group of men under a leadership actively affiliated with the Socialist Workers Party, who withdrew from the A. F. of L. to avoid being expelled from this organization and who have sought to create a union for their own purposes under a charter from the C. I. O.*"

In other words, it is now a matter of public record that the Dunne brothers, with the shameful aid of the C. I. O., engineered the difficulties in Minnesota not out of any concern or regard for the men who operate trucks in that area but solely to promote a subversive political party and to save themselves from expulsion for such subversive activities. And this conclusion is fortified by the brief finding of the Conciliator that speaks eloquent volumes, namely, that out of 5,473 drivers involved, only 172 supported the secessionist movement—even these were not paid-up members—and the great bulk of the remainder, 4,251 drivers and helpers, remained active, paid-up members in our local. This finding is a tribute to the good sense, loyalty and Americanism of our members. It should serve as a real warning to other arrogant disciples of foreign "isms" who still operate under the illusion that American workers will yield to their dictatorial inclinations and reprehensible theories.

Concluding that the public interest and welfare "of Minneapolis and surrounding territory clearly requires that there should be one and only one bargaining representative for all of the general drivers and helpers of the Minneapolis area," and on the basis of the vast majority having designated our local, the Conciliator certified "that Petitioner General Drivers and Helpers Union Local No. 544, A. F. of L., is the representative for collective bargaining purposes of all of the employees" in that area. This means that no rival union can hope to bargain for any truck drivers and helpers in Minneapolis and vicinity—*Joseph Padway, General Counsel.*

A RECENT issue of the *Pennsylvania Commercial Driver* noted the untimely death of a brave member of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. While there are men like this hero in the Teamster Movement, we need not fear for the future of our union or of organized labor. While there are men like this hero in America, we need not fear for the future of our country. Below is the story of this brave Teamster.

Brother Paul Keeports of the Teamsters and Chauffeurs Local 776, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, met sudden death at the foot of the long, tortuous hill which leads to the Conewago Creek crossing near Camp Canago in York County in the mid-afternoon of August 30.

Brother Keeports died a hero just as many thousands of fellow truck drivers have gallantly faced their end, to save the lives of others. To the unsung, and in fact unknown, heroes of similar incidents, the Teamsters regretfully add the shining star of the young member of the Harrisburg local.

Keeports left the New Cumberland terminal of the York Buffalo Motor Company, heavily loaded with machine parts and paint, for Balti-

more, Maryland. About fifteen miles out, after he had started to descend the steep hill which finds its bottom at the bridge crossing the Conewago Creek, he discovered that his air brake hose was broken.

Keeports was familiar with the road, knew the steep descent of the hill, and was acquainted with the curves, the sharpest and dizziest of which is at the bridge at the bottom of the hill. He knew, too, of an old road at the foot of the hill near the bridge.

Knowing that he could not possibly negotiate the curve at the end of the bridge with safety to other vehicles, Keeports headed his truck onto the old road, where its wild careening carried it into a bank, pinning him into the cab. Fire broke out, and he was burned to death before it was possible to extricate him from the flaming wreckage.

The heroism and unselfishness by which Keeports met his death will survive as a symbol of the Teamsters' principles. He considered the other highway users first. The fellow members of his union, in mourning his loss, rededicate themselves to the greater public interests which they through their craft are sworn to serve.—*Thomas E. Flynn.*

THE European war rages on. At this writing Hitler's legions are battering away at Moscow's gates, and the outlook is gloomy. We keep repeating that this monster must be checked at all costs. Yet he goes on from one victory to another, and we wonder if we will be next to feel the conqueror's heel.

The Nazis recently executed more labor leaders in occupied Norway and Belgium. The fact that this has become a common occurrence in Nazi-dominated lands serves to drive home the fact again that Hitlerism and a free organized Labor do not mix. In a Fascist state there is no room for labor organizations or for any other organization which proposes to uphold the rights of the individual. Under Hitler's regime the workers have been regimented back to utter serfdom for Hitler's gory glory—long hours and low pay. There are and can never be any labor unions. Free expression has been suppressed.

There never has been any question about the fact that organized labor's destiny lies with the democratic system government. The gains that Labor has realized or ever hopes to realize can only be obtained under a free, democratic system.

American Labor has answered the dictator's challenge by getting solidly behind the defense program. Realizing the importance of uninterrupted national defense production, American Labor, as represented by the American Federation of Labor, has gone on record for a minimum of strikes in defense industries. Answering President Roosevelt's plea that Labor submit disputes to the Defense Mediation Board before going on strike, William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, said:

"This appeal by the President of the United States echoes almost word for word a public declaration issued by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor six months ago, shortly after the National Defense Mediation Board was created by executive order. The Executive Council pointed out that the original suggestion for the creation of this board had come from the American Federation of Labor. It called upon the affiliated national and international unions to refrain from strikes in defense industries until every avenue of peaceful settlement was exhausted.

"What has been the response from the membership of the American Federation of Labor to this appeal from its leadership? I am gratified to report from official government records that the response was almost one hundred per cent perfect. These official records show that more than ninety-nine per cent of the membership of the American Federation of Labor refrained from striking for any cause at any time during the defense program to date."

That record is the clearest expression as to where Organized Labor stands as regards opposition to the totalitarian system of government, for the right to strike is the most precious heritage that Labor has. When Labor voluntarily puts that right aside wherever at all possible, we have the essence of democracy. When Labor does that, it is evaluating the issues at stake.

Both the International Union and the American Federation of Labor have gone on record as upholding the President's foreign policy of all-out aid to Russia and England in their struggle against Hitler. That action is unequivocal. While we do not espouse or condone Communism, all possible aid should be given Russia and any other nation fighting the insidious Hitler menace. We believe that Hitler's Germany constitutes the gravest threat that free men have ever seen. Thus Labor has no alternative but to defend the institutions under which it can flourish. Labor is the community; the community is Labor. Both stand to prosper and grow under the democratic system.

When we sit down to our Thanksgiving dinners this year, let us be truly thankful as laboring men that we are still free. Let us think of our brothers who are virtual slaves in France, Belgium, Holland, Norway, Denmark, and, yes, Germany. Let us be thankful that we live in this great country where we at least have an opportunity to help solve our destinies. Let us be thankful that we are still men and that we can oppose and fight that tyranny which threatens the entire world.—*Thomas E. Flynn.*

Comment on World Events

Switzerland's calm and courageous attitude in the face of great danger from without was recently the subject of favorable comment which pointed out that the little country's stand was undoubtedly largely due to her organized workers, who from the first have voiced their determination to defend their country to the utmost.

Though the Swiss unions have been passing through difficult times since the outbreak of the war, and for years before, because of the world-wide depression, they have maintained their strength remarkably well. Reports show that unions affiliated with the central organization had an aggregate membership of 212,602 at the end of 1940, a decrease of 4.7 per cent compared with the previous year. But despite the consequences of war and

mobilization, membership was 10 per cent higher than in the crisis year of 1930.

Building and woodworkers' unions were hardest hit, on account of the sharp decline in building activity. Only minor losses were suffered by the metal and watchworkers' unions, railwaymen, commercial and transport workers, employees of the public services and other unions.—*International Labor News.*

Something New

Suits are being made from fish wool and are proving satisfactory to purchasers, it is reported from London. Fish wool is a new development, and in the raw state is dull white and fluffy. The fiber is equal in strength to natural wools, it is said.

IF THE Russian government expects the help of Labor in order to save itself from being destroyed by Hitler, I repeat—as I did in a telegram to the President of the United States which is already being given serious consideration—they had better disassociate agitators such as the Dunnes, Dobbs and Skoglunds; otherwise stout-hearted Americans, even though they hate Hitler, cannot very well espouse a cause with which the above names are connected.

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RECENTLY we sent out a letter to all Joint Councils asking them to send to this office a copy of their By-Laws. In cases where Joint Council By-Laws have not been changed in recent years they should be carefully looked over to see that there is nothing in them which conflicts with the International Constitution. If there is, changes should be made in regular order and a copy sent to the International Headquarters. Recently we had a case in court where such a condition existed.

If you have not already done so, send a copy of your By-Laws to this office immediately and we in turn will have our lawyers check same so that they will not conflict with our new Constitution. This is for the protection of the Joint Councils and the local unions affiliated with them.

•

UNEMPLOYMENT declined from 5,600,000 in July to 5,300,000 in August, according to figures just released by the WPA, which has a large field force making—for the first time in history—an actual month-to-month count of the unemployed in representative areas. Since August of 1940 the number of unemployed has declined by 3,600,000. There are 2,700,000 more at work in agriculture, manufacturing and other branches of paid employment, and 1,400,000 more in the country's military forces.

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